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Senate

(Legislative day of Monday, July 10, 1995)

The Senate met at 9 a.m., on the expiration of the recess, and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Oh, give thanks to the Lord! Call upon His name; make known His deeds among the peoples.—Psalm 105:1.

Sovereign Lord of our Nation, You have created each of us to know, love, and serve You. Thanksgiving is the memory of our hearts. You have shown us that gratitude is the parent of all other virtues. Without gratitude our lives miss the greatness You intended and remain proud, self-centered, and small. Thanksgiving is the thermostat of our souls opening us to the inflow of Your Spirit and the realization of even greater blessings.

We begin this day with a gratitude attitude. Thank You for the gift of life, intellect, emotion, will, strength, fortitude, and courage. We are privileged to live in this free land so richly blessed by You.

But we also thank You for the problems that make us more dependent on You for guidance and strength. When we have turned to You in the past, You have given us the leadership skills we needed. Thank You, Lord, for taking us where we are with all our human weaknesses, and using us for Your glory. May we always be distinguished by the immensity of our gratitude for the way You pour out Your wisdom and vision when with humility we call out to You for help. We are profoundly grateful, Lord. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able Republican whip is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, this morning, leader time has been reserved, and the Senate will begin consideration of S. 1061, the gift ban legislation, for the purposes of debate only. At 11 a.m., the Senate will resume consideration of S. 1060, the lobbying bill, at which time Senator LAUTENBERG will be recognized to offer an amendment under a 60-minute time limitation. Following disposition of the Lautenberg amendment and a managers' amendment, the Senate will proceed to final passage of the lobbying bill. Senators should, therefore, expect a couple votes at approximately 12 noon.

Mr. President, I believe that we are then ready to begin with our gift rule reform legislation.

I do want to say, once again, that I really was very pleased and impressed with the progress that was made yesterday on the lobbying reform. Senator MCCONNELL and Senator LEVIN did yeomen work. They reached a compromise that made it possible for us to finish all of our work on lobbying reform, except the one pending Lautenberg amendment and a managers' amendment, and we will have final passage then at 12 noon. I think that is a very positive accomplishment, and I commend all Senators who were involved in that effort for their work. I hope we can do the same today on gift rule reform.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

CONGRESSIONAL GIFT REFORM ACT OF 1995

The PRESIDING OFFICER [Mr. CAMPBELL]. Under the previous order, the Senate will now proceed to consideration of S. 1061, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1061) to provide for congressional gift reform.

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. LEVIN addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan [Mr. LEVIN] is recognized.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, first, let me thank my friend from Mississippi for the work he did yesterday in helping to expedite the bipartisan conclusion to the lobbying disclosure effort, even though we have not technically yet concluded because we still have to vote on final passage. I think it is quite clear that after we consider the Lautenberg amendment that we will then finally pass a very strong lobbying disclosure reform measure.

This effort has been going on now literally for five decades. When that bill was originally passed in 1946, not more than 2 years had passed before President Truman noted that it was not working. It just simply had so many loopholes in it that even then it was not doing the job that was intended. He urged that there be some reform to try to close those loopholes.

There have been efforts made in every decade since. We have made efforts in the past few years, and while we do not have a law yet on the books, we at least have acted and we have done so in a bipartisan manner and a very forthright and very forceful manner.

There are a lot of people who have been involved in this effort who appropriately deserve credit. I do want to thank the majority whip for his efforts yesterday in helping to bring us to where we are this morning.

Lobbying disclosure, which we will finally pass later on this morning, is one of the three pillars of reform. The other two are gift ban and campaign finance reform. It is the gift ban, the so-called gift reform bill, S. 1061, which is

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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